REVEREND STEPHEN J. WILLIAMS
New Moderator

LIBRARY

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

JUNE • 1954

Going To General Council

The following official delegates will represent Kansas at the General Council session to be held at Yale in New Haven, Connecticut, June 23 - 30.

Association Delegates

Mrs. H. D. Ayres, Wichita Plymouth
Col. L. B. Bender, Manhattan
Rev. Alfred H. Bartter, McPherson
Mrs. O. E. Bonny, K. C. Rosedale
Mrs. Ralph Ewing, Russell
Rev. George Fisk, Wichita Fairmount
Mrs. C. E. Georgeson, Lenora
Mrs. Roscoe Graves, Emporia First
Rev. Ray C. Jones, Topeka First
Mrs. Gordon Lancaster, Topeka Seaman
Rev. Millard Marshall, Onaga
Rev. Hans Poppe, Russell
Rev. J. D. Schmidt, Haven
Miss Martha Shaler, Topeka Central
Mr. Camden Strain, Topeka First
Rev. Reuben R. Trickey, K.C. Welborn
Rev. Dale E. Turner, Lawrence Ply'th.
Rev. Henry E. Wright, Great Bend
Mr. Levi Zimmerman, Whitewater
Rev. R. R. Zoppel, Wichita Pilgrim

Delegates-At-Large

Mr. Roscoe Graves, Emporia First
Mrs. E. C. Garrison, Osborne United
Mr. Gardon N. Jones, Wichita Fairm't
L. M. Rymph, Superintendent
Rev. S. J. Williams, Emporia First

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Latest on the Merger

A five point statement on the much discussed proposed merger between the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church was issued today by the Executive Committee of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches, meeting in New York City.

1 Acting upon the instructions of the General Council which met in Claremont, California in 1952, the Executive Committee will hold a joint meeting with the Evangelical and Reformed General Council on October 12 and 13, 1954.

2 The Executive Committee stated that it felt it "desirable to have further time to study the problems relating to the proposed union."

3 The Executive Committee made it clear that it would see that "variant points of view" in the Congregational Christian fellowship are represented on the committees as the study proceeds.

4 The Executive Committee of the General Council does not propose that any action on the matter of the merger be taken at the forthcoming meeting of the General Council.

5 The Executive Committee further stated that it does not anticipate that it will have any recommendations on the proposed merger to present to the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches until the Council meeting of 1956.

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

Vol. 16 No. 6

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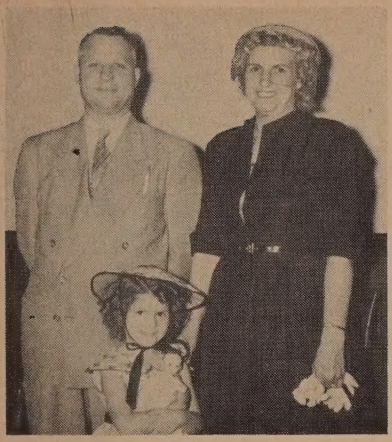


Steve and Etta Williams
with Rosalind

Moderator's Message

It is indeed significant that the Congregational Churches of Kansas should end their first 100 years in Lawrence and that the second 100 should be officially started at our western church in Garden City. Thus, we have spanned the state from east to west and now we must work to consolidate our gains.

As we begin this second period in our church life, I wish to thank the people of the conference who have made it possible for me to serve as your Moderator.

It would be nice, if, as your Moderator, I could say something entirely new but this is impossible. My message needs must be the same one that you have heard so many times before, "Come, let us reason together, " and as we do this perchance we can find an answer to some of the problems before us. The things I would have you reason about concern; Our Christian World Mission and how we can best understand and realize it; The Church Building Loan Fund and how we will meet it in the local churches; and our responsibility in making the church more effective through attracting new members and effectively using those we already have. One could go on and list many things that we need to do in order to make our message effective, but all others are somewhat related to those mentioned above.

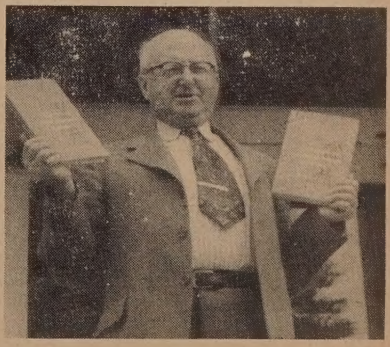
Thanks again for the honor you have conferred upon me and I promise that I will do all in my power to help in any way I can to make this a good year for Our Conference.

Stephen J. Williams,
Moderator

Do You Have Your Copy

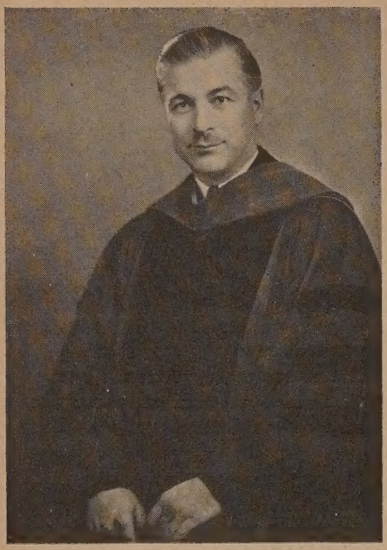
Copies of "A Century of Congregationalism in Kansas" by Charles M. Correll are still available at the Conference office. The book is still being sold at $2.50 which is below the cost of printing.

Every Congregational family in the state should have a copy of this book which gives the graphic story of our first one hundred years. Many of you have friends and relatives out of state who would appreciate a copy. Our Russell Church gave a copy to each graduating Senior.



Professor Charles M. Correll
Author

Send For Your Copy Now!



Charles W. Helsley

Dr. Charles W. Helsley Resigns

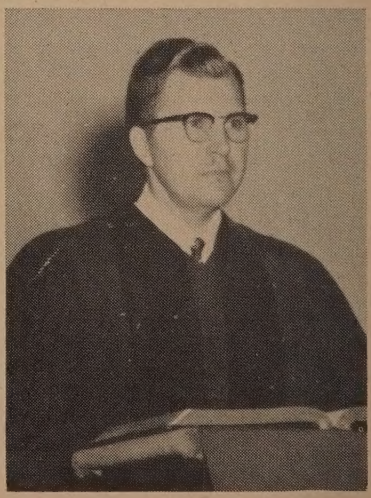
On Sunday, May 16, Dr. Charles W. Helsley announced his resignation at Central Church, effective September 15. Dr. Helseley has been at Central since 1943. During recent months the Sheldon Memorial Room has been completed, the kitchen modernized and plans are underway for the remodeling of the sanctuary with a chancel arrangement.

In announcing his resignation, Dr. Helsley stated "Many of you will want to know what our future plans are. We expect to spend several months building our home. After that I plan to do iterim pastorates and to write in the field of psychography. Psychography is the type of biography in which the person's actions are analyzed and his motives made central in the life story. I plan also to give considerable time to the promotion of "In His Steps Foundation". Dr. Charles M. Sheldon, former Central minister, wrote this best selling novel and read it to Sunday evening congregations. "I am convinced that the idea of "In His Steps" can be fulfilled in a religious awakening in America. I propose to establish chapters through out the nation with headquarters in Topeka."

Dr. Helseley has written a book entitled, "St. Charles of Topeka" which is his first book written as a psycographical study. Kansas Congregationalists extend to Dr. and Mrs. Helsley best wishes in their new endeavors.

New Minister at Osborne

The United Church of Osborne, Presbyterian and Congregational, has extended a call to the Rev. Samuel G. Lee of O'Neill, Nebraska, pending an official call from the Osborne Presbytery. The constitution of the United Church calls for alternating pastorates between ministers of the two participating denominations. The Osborne Church was previously served by Rev. S. Duane Ogden who is now located



Samuel G. Lee

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wright
New Leaders at Almena

in the Sabetha Congregational pastorate. Rev. Christian G. Nelson has been serving as interim pastor for several months.

The Rev. Mr. Lee was born in Dawson, Nebraska, graduated from York College and the Presbyterian Seminary in Omaha. While in seminary he first served a Methodist-Presbyterian Federated Church in Neola, Iowa and later a Congregational Church in Minen, Iowa. For three years he served as a Presbyterian missionary to Barrow, Alaska.

Mr. Lee majored in religion in York College. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lee have participated as leaders and counsellors in youth camps. The Lee's have two children, a 16 year old son who will be a senior in high school and who will attend the Westminster National Fellowship Council Sessions in Champaign this summer and a daughter 7, who will be in the second grade. The Lee's will begin their work at Osborne, July 15.

We welcome them to Kansas and wish to assure them of Congregational cooperation by the Western Association and the Kansas Conference.

Carbondale Calls Kruse

The Carbondale Community Congregational Church has called Clifton Kruse, Sr., as its pastor, beginning July 1st. At the present, Mr. Kruse resides at 2227 West 8th in Topeka. He graduated from Washburn University this year at the age of 49. Mr. Kruse became interested in the work of the ministry when his oldest son Clifton, Jr., was licensed to the Christian ministry and has done supply work with his son, while both have been taking college work.

The Eastern Association has granted him a temporary license until he can qualify for ordination. Mr. Kruse has been serving week-ends as a Bible instructor at the Boys' Industrial School. He comes to our fellowship highly recommended by Dr. Merton French of Washburn University. When Robert Allard, Dean of C.T.S. visited our Washburn Convocation of Ministers he called our attention to the fact "that a number of men were turning from business to religious work and the work

Clifton Kruse, Sr.

of the ministry." We welcome Mr. Kruse to the work of the ministry in the faith that his exploratory move will prove beneficial both to him and the church.

G. Waldo Crippen

Crippen's to Seneca

Rev. G. Waldo Crippen has accepted a call to serve the Seneca Congregational Church and will begin work July first. Mr. Crippen was ordained to the Congregational ministry in 1943 while he was serving the Carbondale Community Church as a licentiate. During his pastorate there, the present church structure was erected and dedicated. Since 1943 Mr. Crippen has been minister at the Milford Church. Waldo and his wife, Myra, have given sacrificial and devoted service to both churches. They have done outstanding work with children and young people. They have no children of their own, yet take personal interest in each child and young person in the parish.

Adults have not been neglected in parish work; family church nights have been real fellowship occasions, and the public worship service has been a cherished experience of regular attendants. The Crippens will be greatly missed at Milford. We are glad that they are to remain as co-workers in Kansas and have every confidence that they will soon be loved and respected in Seneca as they have been in their previous pastorates in the state.

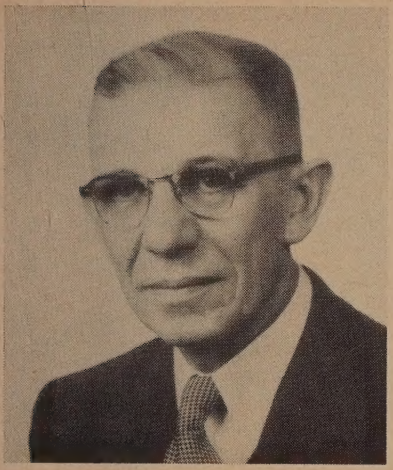
Progress at Hutchinson

Our church has felt for some while the need for added room. Our church school has been crowded; the primary group, most impressionable, has been meeting in the kitchen. So, the church, at its annual meeting in January, voted to extend the undercroft 30 by 60 feet. at a cost not exceeding $15,000.00. The contract for the building, without fixtures, was let at $12,586.00. A canvass was made, and $12,658.80 was subscribed; about half of which was paid in cash. The building will be completed by mid-June.

The church building proper was repainted three years ago at a cost of $4,643.00. The chancel, aisles, front and back of the sanctuary have been recarpeted. We have 145 new Pilgrim Hymnals, a new Spinet piano, 23 new robes, a projector, a stereoptican and 88 new chairs. The parsonage has been improved to the extent of $400.00. The grant from the Building Society of $2550 has been paid .

The improvements made in the past four and a half years, together with the grant payment, equal a total of $23,315.00. During this period 172 new members have been received.

John Henry Hornung, Pastor



David H. Sandstrom
Guest Leader

Laymen's Churchmanship Workshop

When the Conference Stewardship Committee met in February an idea was born out of a sense of great need. Laymen present at that meeting voiced the opinion that the men in our churches are sadly in need of training for their work in the church — training in churchmanship. As a result a week-end meeting for laymen was planned for September 25 and 26, 1954 to be sponsored ejointly by the Laymen's Fellowship with Mr. Carl Althaus as President and the Stewardship Committee with Daniel R. Hopkins as chairman.

Emporia First Church has agreed to be host to the meeting which will begin at 5:30 on Saturday evening, followed by dinner and an evening meeting. Entertainment will be arranged in homes and the meeting will continue Sunday with adjournment not later than 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Rev. David H. Sandstrom of Chicago, Associate Executive Secretary of the Missions Council, will be the guest leader. He will hold three training sessions — one Saturday night, one Sunday morning, preceding the morning worship hour in the Emporia church, and one Sunday afternoon. Before coming to the Missions Council in 1953, Mr. Sandstrom was Minister of Stewardship for the New York Congregational Conference.

Mr. Sandstrom writes: "There are intimations of stewardship throughout the realm of nature. We find everywhere cues to divine ownership and human management. We never quite possess our material and cultural possessions. Our natural gifts of music, poetry ,speech, mechanical dexterity in their creative aspects, witness to divine inspiration, to something not one's own . . . The hardest area in which to be a Christian is the economic. We begin to operate with vital forces when we cross the borders in the land of sacrifices. The things we can spare carry no blood . . . A canvass is not the cold hard business side of the church, but a gateway into fresh spiritual insights and advance . . . We are trustees of our time, talent, and treasures to fulfill His holy will that all men be reconciled to Him and to one another.

The sponsoring groups urge that every local church pay the expenses of at least one carload of their laymen - officers and leaders - to these sessions in Emporia. If the local church feels unable to meet these expenses the conference is authorized to pay such expense. This is a new venture but an important one - it will bear dividends for your church. It will inspire true churchmanship. Be sure your laymen are there - September 25 and 26 at Emporia.

Parsonage Products

For some months we have been running pictures of the children of our parsonages; acquainting our churches with the P.K's - preacher's kids as parishoners sometimes speak of them. We feature in this issue the two charming daughters who grace the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Noah Unruh of Sedgwick. Margaret is 15 years of age, a Junior in high school next year, is attending Camp Wa-Shun-Go for the fourth time this year. She is an enthusiastic worker in the church and this year plans to assist in the Daily Vacation Bible School. Her chief interest in school is music. Naomi Ruth is ten and will be in the fifth grade next year. She, too, is interested in instrumental and vocal music. Both girls have a capacity for friendship and greatly help in interesting their friends in the activities of the church.

It is a commonplace experience for parsonage children to help greatly in keeping their parents personally interested in the other youth of the parish. While at Sedgwick the Unruh's have organized Pilgrim Fellowship activties, stimulated regular attendance at Church School classes and conducted Daily Vacation Bible School, using the vacation time as added opportunity for Christian instruction welding families to the church.

Centennial Float

Pictured above is the float which appeared in the Topeka Centennial Parade on May 22; a project of the four Topeka Congregational Churches. Central, a child of Topeka First, suggested the idea to her Mother Church and without delay plans were made and carried through. The above replica of the first church building in Topeka was designed by Ted Greist of Topeka First. Mrs. Charles S. Graves of Central instigated and chaired the project. All materials were donated.

Others having part were: From Central; Oscar Ekdahl, Loren Nash, Chick Graves, Marvin Reiman, John Gorbutt.

From First: Dean White, Rusty Havican, Niles Kuehn, Bill Schade, Louis Smith, Howard Sperry, Ray Jones, W. M. Campbell, Jack Bates, Wayne Harding.

From Seabrook: Eugene Haun, Barton McMaster, Wilbur Sylvester, Clyde Holmes.

From Seaman: Dean Rinner, Clinton Hutton, Bill Hutton.

World Council

World Council Meeting will be held on the campus of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, August 15 to 31. Registration forms may be obtained from Chicago Ecumenical Institute, 5757 Univ. Ave., Chicago.

Kansas Laymen's Fellowship

Carl Althaus
President

Bill Cribbs
Vice President

Ralph Ewing
Secretary-Treasurer

New Officers
Wm. Cribbs, Carl Althaus, Ralph Ewing

Mr. Althaus Writes

Currently the Laymen's Fellowship is interested in promoting two projects. First, recent receipts of about $500.00 bring the total receipts in the Korab Memorial Fund to approximately $2,000.00. As many of you know, the goal is $2500.00; and the officers of the Laymen's Fellowship are anxious to attain this amount so the money may be forwarded to the Doane College officials. Individuals or organizations in any of our churches are urged to make a contribution to this very worthy cause.

The second project is the Laymen's Churchmanship Workshop to be held at Emporia on September 25 and 26. The objective of this workshop is to train laymen in their responsibilities as leaders in their local churches. Part of the meeting will be inspirational in character, and the church leaders who attend will undoubtedly get many suggestions which will be helpful in the evangelistic work of their churches.

Stewardship will also receive attention. The following are some of the questions which we hope will be answered at this meeting:

1 Who should make the church budget?

2 What procedure should be followed in preparing the budget?

3 Should there be budget hearings or church meetings to which heads of departments or groups may come to present their viewpoint relative to various items in the budget?

4 In what form should the budget be presented? Should the items be listed in detail or should they be grouped under several large categories?

5 What type of individual should head the Every Member Canvass?

6 Should the chairman of the Every Member Canvass or the Board of Trustees prepare a brochure which presents the budget and various needs of the church?

7 Should the brochure contain information which shows how Our Christian World Mission money is spent?

8 How should the Every Member-Canvass be conducted - by mail, or by every member and friend visitation?

9 What is the "quota" system sometimes used in Every Member Canvasses? What other methods have proved successful?

10 What techniques may be used to attain budget goals if the initial canvass does not produce the needed amount?

Kansas Women's Department

Mrs. E. C. Garrison, President

Women's Department Officers at Centennial Conference

Be Informed

Dear Members of Women's Association

In your meditation on "what's really important", may I insert the thought that a "free church" and a "free society" lays the responsibility upon its members to be informed.

A Czechoslovakian who escaped said, "We were intelligent, capable people going about our own business when we were suddenly taken over." They too, had a democracy but "the people", she said, "were interested only in their own affairs."

We are all busy women, I hope, but in this country we can buy, we can borrow and we can read, books and magazines as we will.

We join the Methodists, the Baptists and many others this year in getting a better total picture of "The City" and "India, Pakistan and Ceylon."

In the kit which your Key Woman receives in June, you will find the Friendship Press list for 1954-55. There are also loose leaf pages of material available. Please consider them all. I urge you each to join in this reading and discussion. Our whole lives take on more meaning as we get more facts behind our opinions. Only with understanding do we dare act. Tens of thousands of informed Christians can take up this "lack" we hear just talked about.

Dr. Ione Catton gave specific methods. Ask those who heard her, your Reading Chairman and others to hold a day planning session. Encourage each member to join one or more groups. Start now collecting current material and you'll find this joint project exhilerating. A booklet "Guide for Group Leaders" from KSC, General Extension, (20¢) is one of the best.

Have you seen the new Adventures in Reading list? Many associations supply them to each member. Why not have a committee check the list with your city librarian and write in her comments. A book just off the press, "Freedom Against Itself" by Clarence K. Streit is going to be discussed by everyone. I hope you read it early.

This year we have planned to keep a list of titles of books read and the number who read them. I'd like to receive the report of your group's summer and fall reading late in November. Please add comments and suggestions. I'll promise to get a summary right back to you. In the spring report we may ask for the percent of your members participating in a reading project.

Will each of you consider buying and loaning a book this year.

The World Fellowship Reading List gives books for different ages.

There's also a "Books for Boys and Girls" list. Someone said, "Tell me what a boy or girl reads and I'll tell you what kind of an adult he (or she) will be."

Could I urge you to read Dr. Fredric Wertham's new book, "Seduction of the Innocent." Our children buy ninety million "comic books" a month and borrow hundreds of millions of old ones. Do you know what a "crime comic" is? A review or partial reading of this book is not adequate. One needs to read it all.

I have your loan library at 710 Lee, Manhattan. They are the Friendship Press books for '54 and '55 (see kit)., a half-dozen plays and some maps. Our association recently bought a globe that the whole church is enjoying.

A little read each day adds up. I wish you a happy summer and some good reading.

Sincerely,
Clara Herrick (Mrs. E. H.)
Literature Secretary

In Memory

As evidence of the love and respect of those who knew them, the following names have been added to the Women's Department Memorial Fund Roll of Honor:

Mrs. Eva Haley
By Ottawa Church

Mrs. Evangeline Tate
By Lawrence Plymouth Women

Mrs. Anna Heavy
Mrs. Henrietta Ralphing
By Leavenworth Women's Guild

Miss Zella Parker
By Olathe Congregational Missionary Society

Priority Plus

Dear Congregational Women
of Kansas:

When each of us apportions the family budget to all the family needs we usually meet one item which is extra. It may be a doctor bill, Jimmy's summer camp, or new slip covers. But we accept it as the Plus Demand of the year and give it priority on any funds we can salvage from regular expenses. So with our Kansas Fellowship! And this year such a Plus Demand is the Building Loan Fund.

This is the final year of the campaign. Of the $75,000 asked of Kansas, $63,000 has been pledged. That Kansas which has received through the years a total of $460,627 to build our church properties, should fail in its reciprocal obligation, is unthinkable. The majority of the churches have accepted their suggested quotas. A number have already over-subscribed and over-paid. But a few have been either unable or unwilling to take their share, so the rest of us must just go a bit farther on our second mile, and make it up.

At the Conference in Lawrence, the women agreed to assume the responsibility of creating enough interst in the Loan to assure its success. Nobody can do it as well as the women. They are past masters at meeting the Plus Demand. The methods we use are entirely optional. We may be able to uncover some larger individual gifts, inspire the men to make extra contributions, or we can raise additional amounts in our various projects. The main thing we need is aroused interest. With sufficient interst, the money will come.

This is a non-recurring request. It is the first time in a century it has been made. It will probably be another century before it comes again. Our Kansas

deficit amounts to about seventy-five cents a member, man, woman and child. Will you accept the obligation for your Woman's Fellowship to make the Building Loan Fund the Plus Demand of your coming year, and give it Priority with your enthusiasm and devotion?

Yours in the Fellowship,

The Woman's Committee:
Mrs. Gordon Lancaster,
Eastern Association
Mrs. W. J. Rudrauff,
Southern Association
Mrs. Ralph Ewing,
Western Association
Mrs. R. H. Garvey ,
Chairman.

Southern President Reports

The Centennial Celebration and Conference meeting in Plymouth Church, Lawrence, was a great and inspirational meeting and our Southern Association was well represented. Miss Margaret Hargrove was the speaker at the meeting of the Fellowship of Congregational- Christian Women and her address was a source of much help. The Woman's Gift Dedication portrayed the use of the gifts in the state, across the nation and around the world in an inspiring way. Some of the local Women's groups in our Association are dedicating their Woman's Gift at the Sunday morning service so all the members of the church may be made aware of this contribution of the women. I would commend this to more women's groups.

Miss Leila Anderson, the Pilgrim Circuit Rider, accompanied by Mrs. A. H. Bartter and Miss Pauline Bloomer visited the Plevna, Maize, Pleasant Hill and Neola churches in March.

The new Guide Book will be out soon. All officers in the local groups should read and study it carefully, especially the Standards of Achievement. Do you have a Prayer Group in your women's society? Do you have a Spiritual Life Group? Our State President says, "Read More." Use the "Adventure in Reading." Those of us who were privileged to hear Ione Catton in May received great inspiration from program building, projects and spiritual enrichment. The summer months are the time for careful planning.

The Missionary Institutes of the National Council of Church Women to be held in Boulder, Colorado, June 13-19, and Lake Forest, Illinois, August 2-6, are dates to remember. Kansas should have a good representation.

Mrs. Henry A. Kittell,
President, Southern Association

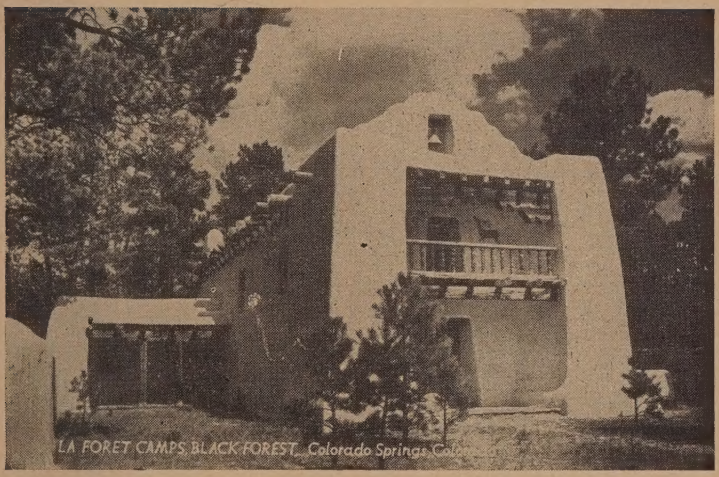
Topeka Seaman

Keeping in the Centennial spirit, Seaman Church observed Centennial Sunday on May 23 with the congregation attired in fitting costumes and some in "heirlooms," beards and bonnets being in the majority. The pastor's sermon covered the history of the church since its founding in 1871 in North Topeka; its survival of the 1903 flood; the relocating in 1916 to the rural Seaman Community where services were held in school buildings until the present structure was dedicated in 1937. Its courageous victory over the 1951 flood takes its place in the annals of history. After the morning worship, the congregation enjoyed an Old- Fashioned Basket dinner. W. E. "Doc" Dull has been pastor during the last 25 years.

The Naomi group of the women's organization realized a profit of about $285.00 during the Centennial from the sale of bonnets.

Christian Education

Pauline Bloomer, Director



La Foret Leadership Workshop

This fifth annual workshop sponsored by the Central South, Colorado and Kansas Conferences will be August 11-15. Inspiraiton, worship, fellowship, recreation and study pack a full day and evening for church school leaders and their families. Adequate camp facilities make it possible to provide accommodations for the entire family. Many combine it with a vacation trip. The cooling breezes of Colorado and the beautiful mountain scenery are a welcome relief from midsummer temperatures.

Emphasis will be given to the area of study of the Life of Jesus. Two lectures will be given daily in addition to the Fall Quarter Pilgrim Series courses. Groups will run from pre-school through adult. There will be interest groups on drama, story-telling, choir, problems of the small church, problems of the city church and Pilgrim Fellowship.

Children's Village is of special interest to parents. An activity program is sponsored for children between the ages of three years and the sixth grade. Attendance of children younger than this age is not recommended. The children are cared for immediately after breakfast until 5:00 in the afternoon. A special program for all children will be held in the evenings from 7:00-7:30.

Mrs. Myra Auten, Denver, well-known children's worker and writer of many years will serve as Dean.

Registration should be sent direct to Colorado Congregational Conference, 3380 Bellaire Street, Denver 7, Colorado. A fee of $2.00 per person must accompany registration. Total cost to adults and children over five is

$15.50. Children three to five years $7.50. Deadline is 10 days before camp and a late registration fee of $1.00 will be charged thereafter. Extra folders are available from Kansas Conference.

New Filmstrips Available

Days of Wonder is a beautiful color filmstrip showing close-ups of flowers, trees, butterflies, ocean-tide and other out-of-door subjects. Recorded script includes bird calls. Children come in close contact through eyes and ears with the wonders of God. Highly recommended for primaries and juniors. Available from Kansas Conference.

Bernadette of East Harlem is about a little Negro girl who lives in the much overcrowded section of New York City. It shows her home, neighborhood and church. Excellent missionary filmstrip for children thru adults. Especially suitable for this year's Home Mission study on "The City" theme. Color and written script. Write Conference.

Prairie Village

On April 30 the church school teachers at Colonial Church sponsored a Parent's Meeting. Nearly 200 parents and children were in attendance. Following a family supper the minister interpreted the work of the church school, the Pilgrim Series and explained the need for parents' cooperation and the part the home has in the total program. The children enjoyed a movie program meanwhile. Such enthusiastic response was made on the part of the parents that another meeting is planned for fall.

Osborne

The Mariners, couples and parents, had a "painting bee." The church school rooms have a new look as regards tables and chairs.

Family Life Commission

We are happy to announce the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Felton from Great Bend to the Family Life Commission. It is jointly sponsored by the Division of Christian Education and the Woman's Fellowship. This commission works through a central committee made up for the most part of parents of small and teen-age children. It is a three-year appointment. Special studies and projects in the area of family life are undertaken. We heartily congratulate the Feltons on this appointment.

Summer Service Projects

Religious pictures of a good quality are very much needed. There are severel ways to send pictures. One dollar will send a special set of pictures which is distributed by the World Council depository in over seas countries. All you do is to specify whether you want to send Old Testment or New Testament sets. Money may be sent through your Conference Office. Pictures cut from church school papers, calendars, etc. may be sent to Africa. They are:

Miss Nellie Walker, Adams Mission, Sta. Natal, Union of South Africa

Wrap carefully and send them mark ed "Printed Matter Rate (not Parcel Post) Rate is 2 cents for first 2 ozs., and 1½ cents for each additional 2 oz. No valuation should be made. No Custom tag is required.

Send sets of Elsie Anna Wood and Junior and Primary Pilgrim Series and other teaching pictures to:

Rev. Joseph Bevilacqua, Ryder Memorial Hospital, Humacao, Puerto Rico. Printer matter should be sent Parcel Post to Puerto Rico, where domestic postal rates apply. Packages may be sealed with brown paper tape and must bear Parcel Post Labels. Mr. Bevilacqua is supt. of our Puerto Rican churches.

Kansas Pilgrim Fellowship

Norman Dirks, President

Peggy Epps, Secretary

A Planning Retreat

Better programs in several groups resulted this past year as a direct result of having had a Planning Retreat. A retreat can be held on a weekend in July or August for the next years' program study. There should be a good combination of recreation and fun, serious discussion, worship, and planning the program. Experience has proved that an overnight or two day retreat is better than one day only. Also, every effort should be made to get away from the church if an adequate meeting place is available. There are some beautiful spots in the country, some parks offer good facilities, or if you are lucky you may have a friend who would let the group use his cabin or cottage. A few places in Kansas offer good public facilities that can be secured.

Youth Program Booklets "Everyday Christians" and "God in Our Lives" offer excellent suggestions for setting up a retreat. It is a good plan also to elect your new officers now so they can have the summer to get plans in order. Write Conference office for further suggestions and help on available resources for a P. F. Planning Retreat.

Church Building Loan Fund

Pilgrim Fellowship is supporting this important program. Kansas is approximately $12,000 short on its goal and every group in our church is being asked to give this important project priority. Those extra dollars that were earned at the bake sale, car wash, etc. can establish and build churches where they are most needed. Come on, P.F.ers, let's join the building campaign.

What's Going On Around the State

Whitewater had a May Day ice cream and cake social May 8. Smaller children celebrated by winding the May pole. Parents and friends were invited.

Centralia had a Junior P.F. party May 7. Guests were invited. On May 8 a bake sale was held to raise funds for camp.

Topeka First raised their Christian Action pledge with a pancake supper.

Wichita Fairmount, Lawrence and **Kansas City Welborn** had car wash projects during May to help raise Christian Action pledges.

Gayle Askren of **Topeka Seabrook** won second place in the Topeka Optimist Club Oratory contest. Janice Booher of the same church won a Washburn University Scholarship. Congratulations to both.

Wichita Pilgrim has new Junior Hi sponsors. They are Nick and Nelva Jean Marks.

Smith Center Pilgrims have purchased Badminton and volley ball equipment for their church lawn.

"God in Our Lives" in the new Youth Fellowship Program No. 6. Order from Pilgrim Press. $1.00.

The Charles Holbrook Library
Pacific School of Religion
1708 Scenic Ave.
Berkeley 9, Calif.

Social Action

"A sermon reference to possible unpleasant political developments sparked discussion by members of the Committee on Social Action of the Fairmount Congregational Church of Wichita," wrote Miss Betty Compton in a recent letter. "We decided to attempt a project on Political Education. To do this we decided to inform the church membership of the issues involved, and attempt to influence the voting of the membership. We secured a limited amount of printed material; mimeographed other material and distributed it."

"We made several mistakes: We took action too hastily; we did not study our material as a group; we used "Guilt by Association" tactics in one instance and the entire committee did not sign the report. Our results were both good and bad. While we received considerable notoriety when a reporter gave an incomplete story, we found our church people were favorable. We can not say we influenced the elections. We only know that the candidates we opposed lost."

"No unpleasant publicity followed a later similar effort. We had learned our lesson. We were much more careful in learning the full story of each candidate as well as the issues involved. Experience was a good teacher."

Betty Compton

A comment or two on the above letter. First, we want to thank Betty Compton for sharing this experience with us. It was typical of many first attempts at registering concern for social and political ills. Experience is the way of growth in understanding issues involved as well as proper means for Christian action. At the recent Centennial Conference in Lawrence we were asked to help develop Social Action Committees in at least half of the churches in Kansas. A number of churches already have such a committee. If you have a committee would you send the name of your chairman. If you want help in setting up a committee, write us. Our chief concern in this program is not to launch a crusade of action. Rather it is to coordinate the concern and interest of those who have become sensitive to some of the problems of society from the Christian point of view and to share our experiences and information.

Alfred H. Bartter, Chairman,
Council for Social Action
208 S. Maple
McPherson, Kansas